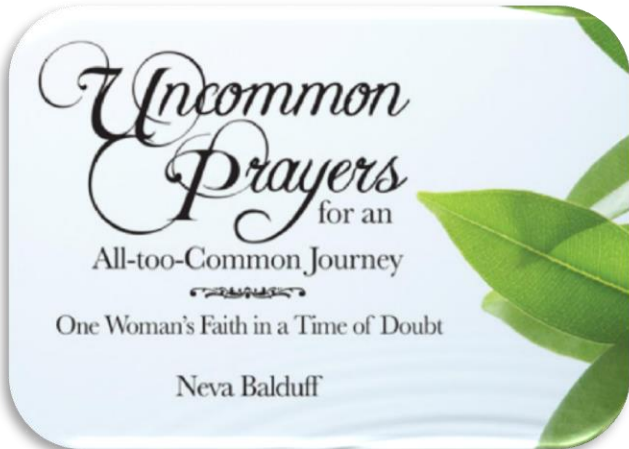


Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
210 North Fifth Street
Ponca City, OK 74601
580.762.1667 www.fccponcacity.com

Seeking, Serving, Sharing
March 3, 2024



Congratulations to Allison Allensworth, Judy Estlack, and The Learning Tree!

The Learning Tree Family Childcare Home receives National Accreditation

Ponca City, Oklahoma, February 2024 — The Learning Tree Family Childcare Home has earned the prestigious status of an Accredited Family Childcare Home through the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC). NAFCC is a nationwide non-profit organization dedicated to promoting high quality child care by strengthening the profession of family child care for nearly one million paid home-based early learning programs serving almost 40% of the 6.7 million children who receive care from a non-relative on a regular basis.

To achieve accreditation, the Learning Tree follows strict criteria that are divided into 5 content areas: • Relationships • The Environment • Developmental Learning Activities • Safety and Health • Professional and Business Practices.

In gaining accreditation, The Learning Tree has reached this top level of quality whereby the service provider demonstrates the capacity, commitment, and competence to support high-quality learning and ongoing program improvement.

The Learning Tree is currently the only Family Childcare Home in this area to offer this level of care. They were also recently awarded a 5 STAR rating as of 2023 through the State of Oklahoma's Quality rating system.

"We are so excited to offer this level of care in our area! We have worked hard to accomplish this goal and strive to provide a safe, clean and comfortable learning environment for the children in our care," Mrs. Allison Allensworth states.

Allison operates the childcare home along with the help of her sister-in-law, Judy Estlack. They both have over 20 years experience in the childcare field. Allison has earned a Child Development Associate, also known as a CDA, and Judy has earned her Certificate of Mastery in child development. They believe strongly in continuing education and attend trainings in person and online throughout each year.

For more information, go to The Learning Tree on Facebook or contact Allison Allensworth 580-749-4045.



↔ LEAN ON HIM ↔

Lord, I yelled at him today—
I really lost my cool!
It's his damaged brain
that makes him act this way—
how could I be such a fool?
But sometimes desperation
makes me cry to be free:
"Lord, if you won't take him—
then please take me!"
I don't think I really mean it—
but sometimes fear and doubt
take on a life of their own,
and all I want is out!
Please help me keep my cool—
please help keep me sane.
I don't want to cause him any more pain.
You know I love him—
that hasn't changed,
though everything else
has been rearranged.
He's been my husband for fifty-two years.
We've shared much laughter
and many tears,
and we can share this experience
and make it through,
but only, dear Lord,
if we can lean on you!

~Neva Balduff



March 3-9

Broken: Though I may pretend these weeks are like every other week, I know these weeks are sacred. I know this because the air is filled with the blooms of glory, the fragrance of forgiveness and all shades of compassion. I

know these weeks are sacred because I try so very hard to look away, to see it happening somewhere else, to someone else. What is broken finds it difficult to see what is whole. This is a world, its own world, in which nothing touches and nothing is touched. Now a hand reaches out, to touch. Something complete and whole. Something sacred.

Holy Companion, may I see another way that brings all the scattered pieces together, again.



[Devotionals - Phillips Theological Seminary \(ptstulsa.edu\)](http://ptstulsa.edu)

Service Attendance, February 25, 2024

In-house: 55 Live On-line: 31
Social Media Hits: 126

Sunday, March 3 Service Information

John 2:13-22

"Zeal for your house will consume me."

Sunday School @ 9:30 ~ Fellowship Time @ 10:30

Services @ 8:30 & 11:00

Giving in Review

As of January 31, 2024

Income Received YTD	\$38,810.25
Actual Expenses YTD	\$25,492.15
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$25,839.61